

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

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R 011505Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5394

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

USUN 1648

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS ANKARA 6108

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TU, CY, GR

SUBJ: CYPRUS: FAVORABLE COMMENT FOR US, MILD
CRITICISM FOR USSR IN TURKISH PRESS

1. ON AUG 1 TURKISH PRESS PORTRAYAL OF US ROLE IN CYPRUS CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT IN GENEVA BEGAN TO REFLECT A SOMEWHAT MORE FAVORABLE IMAGE WHILE SOVIET POSITIONS RECEIVED MILD EDITORIAL CRITICISM.

2. TODAY'S HURRIYET BANNER HEADLINES AN INTERVIEW WITH PRIMIN ECEVIT: "AMERICA ACTED WISELY THIS TIME." HURRIYET, TURKEY'S LARGEST CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER, QUOTES ECEVIT AS SAYING ABOUT HIS CONTACTS WITH SECSTATE KISSINGER, "THE US ACTED VERY WISELY AND CAREFULLY. THE US AND KISSINGER WERE VERY CAREFUL AND WISE COMPARED TO TEN YEARS, A FEW YEARS AGO. THEY MADE A GOOD
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ASSESSMENT OF TURKEY'S RIGHTS AND NEEDS."

3. A REASSESSMENT OF SOVIET POSITION MAY BE UNDERWAY IN PRESS.

CRITICAL EDITORIALS APPEARED IN ISTANBUL, A SMALL, GNERALLY CONSERVATIVE PAPER, AND IN HURRIYET, ISTANBUL EDITORIALIZED...

"THE SOVIETS THEMSELVES ALWYAS REVEAL WHAT THEIR REAL INTENTIONS TOWARD TURKEY ARE. THE RUSSIANS WHEN SELLING RUSSIAN MADE GUNS, TANKS AND MACHINE GUNS AND CZECH ARMS TO MAKARIOS...DOUBTLESSLY KNEW THESE WOULD BE USED AGAINST THE TURKS ONLY. WHEN THE TURKS PREVENTED THE USE OF THE ARMS BY LANDING ON CYPRUS, THE SOVIETS IMMEDIATELY TOOK A STAND AGAINST TURKEY AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL...THE PRO-MAKARIOS ATTITUDE OF THE SOVIETS SHOULD BE A GOOD LESSON TO US AND HELP US TO BETTER RECOGNIZE OUR NEIGHBOR."

4. FROM HURRIYET: "IN THE NOISE AND EXCITEMENT OF THE FIRST DAYS, THE SOVIET ATTITUDE SEEMED VERY CLOSE TO TURKEY AND IT WAS EVEN INTERPRETED AS BEING OF BENEFIT TO TURKEY IN A POSSIBLE WAR. BUT THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION PUBLISHED ON THIS SUBJECT, THE SOVIET ATTITUDE AT THE UN REVEALED THE REAL SENTIMENTS OF THE SOVIETS. MUCH AS THE SOVIET AMB TO ANKARA MAY TRY TO CHANGE THIS MEANING, THE RUSSIANS DID NOT RAISE THEIR VOICES BECAUSE THE TURKISH LANDING PREVENTED THE EOKA-B ACTION, BUT THEY WANTED MAKARIOS TO RETURN AS THE LEGITIMATE PRESIDENT, AND ALL FOREIGN FORCES TO LEAVE CYPRUS."

5. COMMENT: COMPARED WITH PERSISTENT CRITICISM OF RECENT DAYS, THESE POSITIVE NOTES AND ABSENCE FURTHER CRITICISM OF US ROLE MAY SIGNAL UPTURN IN OUR PRESS STANDING.
MACOMBER

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